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The Corporation of The City of London
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ensuring the Safety of London's Drinking Water

The City has developed a three-phased action plan to address lead issues and to maintain high quality, clean drinking water and is going to work with a small number of homeowners to discuss ways of mitigating lead water pipes.

The three phased plan includes:

- education and awareness campaign to educate homeowners who have lead pipes and to provide information about replacing the pipes;
- investigation into changes to the water chemistry which could minimize the uptake of lead into the water;
- replacement of lead pipes, in conjunction with homeowners and as part of its broader infrastructure renewal efforts.

City Council approved $100,000 specifically for lead mitigation strategies in 2007.

Approximately 15 per cent of London's water services may contain lead. The City is going to work with these homeowners to ensure they have adequate information about the options available to mitigate lead water pipes. Homeowners with lead services can have their water tested free of charge and inquire about the lead service replacement program. The homeowner is responsible for the cost and the replacement of their portion of the lead service connection into the house. The City will replace the public portion at no cost to the homeowner in coordination with the homeowners.

"The City is going to continue its efforts to educate and inform homeowners about lead water pipes", says Anne Marie DeCicco-Best. "We are committed to working on both immediate and long-term solutions to ensure continued drinking water safety."

The City of London's drinking water system meets or exceeds Ontario Ministry of the Environment standards. The Ontario Ministry of Environment weekend testing confirms that the City of London's water distribution system continues to meet the provincial drinking water standards.

More information is available by visiting our Lead sampling in London **frequently asked questions** page and the **Lead Health Messages** from the **Middlesex-London Health Unit**. Please also refer to the April 26 media release concerning the identification of City staff who test water in homes.